

Loyola Marymount University

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From the Selected Works of Aisha Conner-Gaten

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## Push Comes to Shove: Supporting Patrons of Color in Your Institution Handout

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Available at: <https://works.bepress.com/aisha-conner-gaten/18/>



## What Do We Mean When We Say “Supporting Patrons of Color In Your Institution”: A Framework + Terminology

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“Being oppressed means the absence of choices.” --bell hooks

### Framework Terminology

- **Oppression:** the prejudice and discrimination of one social group against another, backed by institutional power.

DiAngelo, Robin and Özlem Sensoy. *Is Everyone Really Equal? An Introduction to Key Concepts in Social Justice Education*. New York: Teachers College Press, 2012.

- **Anti-Racism:** the strategies, theories, actions, and practices that challenge and counter racism, inequalities, prejudices, and discrimination based on race.

“Anti-Oppression: Anti-Racism.” Simmons Library. Last modified March 12, 2018.  
<https://simmons.libguides.com/anti-oppression/anti-racism>.

- **Collective Liberation:** the undoing of the effects and the elimination of the causes of social oppression by transforming oppressive behavioral patterns, “unlearning” oppressive attitudes and assumptions and breaking down institutional power structures. This includes:
  - Strategic approaches to “equality of condition” with procedures for monitoring implementation over time (i.e. avoiding token services in lieu of empowering community members and library staff at all levels to decide, implement, and monitor services)
  - Providing opportunities for dialogue and connections to institutional and political power (accountability to community)

Sherover-Marcuse, Ricky. “Liberation Theory A Working Framework” *Be Colour Blind*,  
[http://www.unlearningracism.org/writings/lib\\_theory.htm](http://www.unlearningracism.org/writings/lib_theory.htm).

- **Social Justice:** A broad term for action intended to create genuine equality, fairness and respect among peoples.

University of Massachusetts, Lowell, Office of Multicultural Affairs. *Diversity and Social Justice: A Glossary of Working Definitions*. [https://www.uml.edu/docs/Glossary\\_tcm18-55041.pdf](https://www.uml.edu/docs/Glossary_tcm18-55041.pdf).

More Strategies Here: <http://bit.do/supportpoc>



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